

"Homeowner Night" at the Development Services Center

After-Hour Appointments Available for Permit Assistance



Every Tuesday the City's Development Services Center will remain open between the hours of 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. (by appointment only) to assist homeowners with their permit needs.

Homeowners may bring their plans and design documents to the Development Services Center located at 39550 Liberty Street.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, contact Development Assistant Jackie Hall at jhall@ci.fremont.ca.us or 494-4487.

Changes Underway in Key City Departments

Navigating through City Hall will be Easier

The City recently reorganized its development review and maintenance functions into two new departments. This reorganization splits the former Development and Environmental Services Department into the:

1. Community Development Department
2. Transportation and Operations Department

The new departments create a more manageable split of these critical City functions. Jill Keimach, former Interim Development and Environmental Services Director, will lead the Community Development Department, while Jim Pierson, former Assistant City Engineer, will head up the Transportation and Operations Department.

See **Changes**, Page 3

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

Need help with your taxes but can't afford professional assistance? VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) volunteers help hundreds of low-income families and those with special needs by explaining the many special credits and deductions available and helping with tax paperwork.

VITA assistance is available Mondays and Wednesdays (through April 12), from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Fremont Family Resource Center, Caribbean Room, 39155 Liberty Street.

For more information, contact VITA's Shalini Mongia at VITA@ci.fremont.ca.us or 574-2290.

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City Manager's Message



The City of Fremont incorporated just over 50 years ago. Back then, a group of engaged and involved community members worked together to form what would become a great city—one which we are all proud to call home. Now that we're celebrating Fremont's 50th

birthday, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the residents and business community members of today's Fremont, who have really stepped up to the plate to tackle some of the tough – and exciting — issues for our future.

Members of the Fremont community have readily volunteered to create events and celebrate the city. This is no small undertaking and requires hours of precious time and energy to produce the type of quality events we all want for our community. The January 20th Gala, the Open House in the tent on January 23, and the midnight City Council meeting all went off without a hitch thanks to their hard work and dedication.

In addition, for several months the City of Fremont has been reaching out to the people of this city to assess the community's priorities so that we are able to evaluate whether to proceed with a potential finance measure next year.

We have received fantastic response to our outreach efforts—more than 3,000 citizens have provided input, and we have now completed dozens of Speakers Bureau presentations in an effort to engage in one-on-one dialogue about critical issues for our city.

Recently, Fremont has been forced to make drastic cuts in several essential services. The City will be unable to maintain current services without additional funds. In just the last three years, the City has made significant reductions to city services across the board, including road repairs and maintenance, crime prevention programs, senior services, fire safety, and park and recreation programs.

These are serious issues, requiring real community participation in finding the right solution for our residents, and our city — and Fremont residents have accepted the challenge.

So again, congratulations Fremont. Together, we will celebrate our past and find solutions for the future.

Fred

Fred Diaz
City Manager

Did You Know...?

Fremont Residents Able to Use Newark, Union City Libraries

Did you know that Fremont residents are able to use the Newark and Union City libraries? The Newark Library, located at 6300 Civic Terrace Avenue, and the Union City Library, located at 34007 Alvarado-Niles Road, are open on Sundays from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. For additional library hours, please contact the Alameda County Library at 745-1500 or visit their website at www.aclibrary.org.



Free Gun Locks Available

"No Questions Asked"



Free firearm safety kits, complete with a cable-style gun lock and a firearm safety brochure are available 7 days a week, 24 hours a day, at the

Fremont Police Department located at 2000 Stevenson Boulevard. You can pick up gun lock safety kits - *no questions asked*. When picking up gun locks, it is helpful to know the type of firearm(s) you have, such

as a 22 or 25-caliber handgun, a rifle, etc. **Please DO NOT bring guns to the Police Department.** For more information, contact the Police Department at 790-6800.

Business Resource Fair

Learn about programs and services to build your business at the third annual Business Resource Fair. This free event is co-sponsored by the City of Fremont and the Fremont Chamber of Commerce:

Friday, May 5

8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Fremont City Hall, City Council Chambers
3300 Capitol Avenue, Building A



Representatives from over 20 different local, state, and federal government

agencies and Bay Area business resource organizations will be on-hand to talk about their services and resources. Business workshops will also be offered several times throughout the event.

Contact the City's Kim Marshall at kmarshall@ci.fremont.ca.us or 284-4020 for more information.

City of Fremont

The City Council meets the first, second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 3300 Capitol Avenue. (Work sessions are held on the third Tuesday of each month, times vary.) Meetings are broadcast over Cable TV Channel 27 or webcast online at www.fremont.gov/CityHall/Webcasts.

City Council

Bob Wasserman, Mayor

Steve Cho, Vice Mayor

Dominic Dutra, Bob Wiekowski, Anu Natarajan

City Manager

Fred Diaz

Fremont City News

Cheryl Golden, Managing Editor

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City Address, Phone Number, and Website

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www.fremont.gov

City Hall News

Changes, from Page 1



Jill Keimach, Community Development Director, and Jim Pierson, Transportation and Operations Director, will lead the City's two new departments.

The goals of the reorganization include creating an organization that is easier for the public to navigate and staff to manage. These goals were achieved without adding any additional staff members.

The reorganization should be transparent to most members of the public. For example, all phone numbers remain the same.

The new departments will have the following areas of responsibility:

Community Development

- Building Inspection (494-4400)
- Building Permits (494-4460)
- Community Preservation (Code Enforcement) (494-4430)
- Engineering (includes design and construction of public projects, landscape architecture, and management of City-owned properties) (494-4700)
- Planning (494-4440)
- Redevelopment/Affordable Housing (494-4500)

Transportation and Operations

- City Building Maintenance (979-5757)
- City Fleet Maintenance (979-5737)
- Environmental Services (includes garbage collection, recycling, and clean water program) (494-4570)
- Median Maintenance (979-5700)
- Street Maintenance (979-5700)
- Transportation Engineering (includes traffic signal operation and maintenance and traffic service requests) (494-4745)
- Urban Forestry (979-5700)

Home Remodeling Tips

Thinking of remodeling or building an addition to your house? Here are some tips we hope you find useful:

- ✓ Select a professional architect and engineer to help you through the design process. Hiring a professional licensed by the State of California provides a certain level of assurance.
- ✓ Always check references and ask for a list of recent projects. Call the references, and if possible, visit the projects that have been completed or those currently under construction.
- ✓ Sign contracts at the beginning of the project.
- ✓ To determine if a contractor's license is current and valid, contact the Contractors State License Board at www.cslb.ca.gov or call 800-321-2752, select option 1, and enter the contractor's license number.
- ✓ Before you begin your project, you or your contractor must obtain a building permit from the City for the work that will be completed.

For more information, please visit the City's website at www.fremont.gov/Permits or contact the Building Department at 494-4460.

County Sales Tax for Roads

Fremont Boulevard Median Improvements



Fremont's Central Business District now has new landscaped medians thanks to funding from Measure B. This tax measure provides revenues for transportation improvements throughout Alameda County. The new Fremont Boulevard median project enhances one of Fremont's busiest corridors. The new flowering pear trees, flax shrubs and decorative median paving brighten the stretch of Fremont Boulevard from Mowry Avenue to Sundale Drive.

Our Community

Senior Center Receives Facelift

Grant Funds Made it Possible

Although the Fremont Senior Center hasn't reached retirement age—it just turned 25 last year—it recently received a much-needed makeover. Using federal Community Development Block Grant funds (which can only be used for facility improvements, not for operations) the Senior Center partnered with the City's Environmental Services Division to install new bamboo flooring, an environmentally-friendly substitute for hardwood. In addition, interior meeting rooms were repainted, a water-damaged exterior door was replaced, and a new handicapped-accessible ramp was installed.



The Senior Center's new look.

Check out the Senior Center's new look. It's located at 40086 Paseo Padre Parkway in Central Park. For more information, contact Senior Center Manager Linda Olla at lolla@ci.fremont.ca.us or 790-6606.

Gala Fundraiser Will Benefit Senior Center, Drop-In Child-Care Program

The City of Fremont Human Services Department's third annual fundraiser, *Meet Me in Fremont: Where Cultures of the World Come Together*, is scheduled for the evening of Thursday, May 4 at the Fremont Marriott. The event will feature international music and entertainment, as well as great food, a silent auction, and an opportunity to network with community leaders.

More than 250 people attended last year's gala, which raised about \$70,000 to support City human service programs facing cutbacks due to government budget shortfalls. This year's event

proceeds will benefit the Fremont Senior Center and the Discovery Cove drop-in child-care program at the Fremont Family Resource Center.

Tickets are \$100/person. For information or to purchase tickets, please call the City's Human Services Department at 574-2050.

50th Anniversary Events, Programs Planned

Celebrate Fremont, the grassroots planning organization for the celebration of Fremont's 50th Anniversary, is organizing an anniversary celebration called "Celebrate Fremont @ The Park," a two-day free party that will take place September 9-10 in Central Park.



In addition to this event, other events and programs are available throughout the year for your participation:

- Take a heritage bus tour.
- Display your artistic talent - seeking textile and glass artists, wood workers, toy-makers, native artists, or folk artists who make art out of found objects.
- Voice your hopes for Fremont's future - complete a brief survey online at the Celebrate Fremont website.
- Participate in the Oral history project: "Fremont Stories."

Volunteer and sponsorship opportunities are still available. Visit Celebrate Fremont's website at www.celebratefremont.org or call the organization's headquarters at 790-9352 for more information.

Legacy of Volunteerism Remains Strong in Fremont

City Celebrates Volunteers during National Volunteer Week

Volunteers who work tirelessly to improve city government and organizations in our community will be honored during National Volunteer Week, April 23 – 29. The Fremont City Council will recognize volunteers by proclamation at the April 11 City Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. held in the City Council Chambers, 3300 Capitol Avenue, Building A.

The National Volunteer Week theme, "Inspire By Example," truly reflects the power volunteers have to inspire the people they help and to motivate others to serve! Want to get involved? Support the special projects and day-to-day operations of Fremont city government. We offer many ways for people of all ages to get involved and serve the community.

Visit the City's website at www.fremont.gov/Community/Volunteering for more information or contact Volunteer Services Manager Debra Nunn at dnunn@ci.fremont.ca.us or 790-6754.



Your Home

Home Improvement Loans for Income-Eligible Homeowners



The winter months can take a toll on your home. Before the summer heats up, spring may be the best time for new home improvements such as a new roof, electrical or plumbing system upgrades, energy efficient windows, exterior/interior painting, or landscaping and fence repair.



If you are in need of any of these improvements, the City of Fremont has the right tools for you. Under the Neighborhood Home Improvement Program, income-eligible homeowners can apply for a low-interest loan to make home improvements. For more information, please contact the Office of Housing and Redevelopment at

housingandredevelopment@ci.fremont.ca.us or 494-4500.

Housing Scholarship Program Provides Rent Assistance

Do you have to decide between paying your rent and continuing your job-training program? Let us help you do both!

Through the City's award-winning Housing Scholarship Program, "rent scholarships" are available to income-eligible applicants enrolled in vocational job-training programs. Under this program, a one-bedroom apartment rents for \$295 a month and a two-bedroom rents for \$330 a month – a substantial savings for program participants.

Who is eligible to receive a Housing Scholarship?

If you can answer "Yes" to all of the following questions, you may be eligible to apply for a Housing Scholarship:

- ☑ Are you 18 years of age or an emancipated minor?
- ☑ Do you have good credit history or are working to repair it?
- ☑ Are you a full-time student in good academic standing with a GPA of 2.8 or above?
- ☑ Have you been enrolled for a minimum of one quarter or 12 weeks in an eligible training program and have 18 months or less remaining for your certification?
- ☑ Are you committed to achieving a better quality of life for you and your family?

How can you apply? For more information, please contact Housing Counselor Janis Carey at housingandredevelopment@ci.fremont.ca.us or 494-4511.

Affordable Housing

Affordable Apartments in Centerville Near Completion



Maple Street Apartments nearly completed.

Construction is scheduled to be completed by the end of March for Maple Square Apartments. Affirmed Housing Group is building this 132-unit affordable rental housing community comprised of studio, 1, 2, and 3 bedroom apartments. The development is located at Maple Street and Baine Avenue in Centerville. Construction financing included a \$12.3 million Redevelopment Agency affordable housing loan. The property is being managed by Solari Enterprises. A lottery to select initial tenants was held in February.

Apartments for Developmentally Disabled Adults: Coming Soon



Lincoln Street Apartments are coming soon.

Construction continues at Lincoln Street Apartments, where 11 accessible and affordable apartments for developmentally-disabled adults are being built. The one and two-bedroom apartments are located at 40852 Lincoln Street in Irvington. Housing Consortium of the East Bay and Satellite Housing are the developers. Federal financing will allow future residents to pay only 30% of their income for rent. The City of Fremont and Redevelopment Agency contributed \$1.5 million to the project's \$4.2 million cost. Construction is scheduled to be completed in Spring 2006.

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For more information about either apartment complex, please contact the Office of Housing and Redevelopment at housingandredevelopment@ci.fremont.ca.us or 494-4500.

e n v i r o n m e n

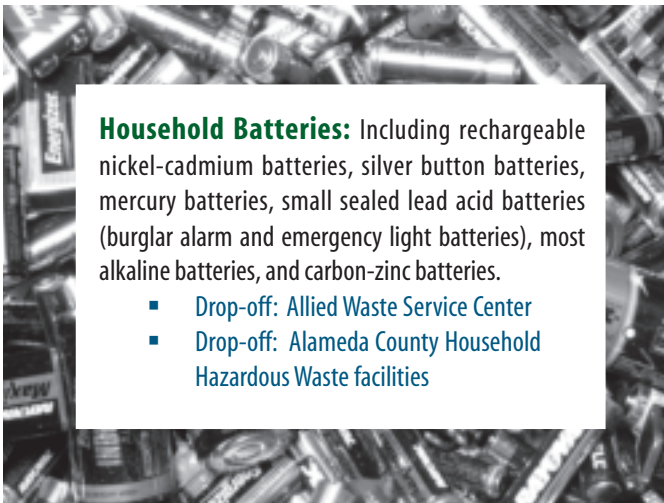
New Disposal Rule Affects Residents

Keep Batteries, Fluorescent Tubes/Bulbs, Electronics, Mercury Thermostats Out of the Garbage

Effective February 9, 2006, California households may no longer dispose of batteries, fluorescent tubes/bulbs, some electronics, and mercury thermostats in the garbage. These items are known as "Universal Wastes" because they are common household items used widely by people. Universal wastes require special care to prevent harm to people and the environment.

For a complete list of universal wastes, please visit the City's website at www.fremont.gov/Environment. All universal wastes can be taken to one of the following locations listed on this page for recycling.

Banned Items and Local Drop-off Locations



Household Batteries: Including rechargeable nickel-cadmium batteries, silver button batteries, mercury batteries, small sealed lead acid batteries (burglar alarm and emergency light batteries), most alkaline batteries, and carbon-zinc batteries.

- Drop-off: Allied Waste Service Center
- Drop-off: Alameda County Household Hazardous Waste facilities

Some Electronics: Including computers, printers, VCRs, cell phones, telephones, telephone answering machines, and radios. *Please note:* electronics that contain video displays have already been banned from disposal under the Electronic Recycling Act of 2003. These include televisions (tube-type and plasma), computer monitors, and laptop computers.

- Drop-off: Allied Waste Service Center
- Drop-off items at various local electronics recyclers. Download a brochure with company names from the City's website at www.fremont.gov/Environment/ElectronicsRecycling/ListOfElectronicsRecyclers or call the City's Environmental Services Division at 494-4570.



Mercury Thermostats: Room temperature thermostats for heat or fans that contain mercury inside the sealed glass "tilt switch" of the old style thermostats (not the modern electronic kind).

- Drop-off: Alameda County Household Hazardous Waste facilities



Fluorescent Tubes, Bulbs and Other Mercury-Containing Lamps:

Including fluorescent light tubes and bulbs, high intensity discharge (HID), metal halide, sodium, and neon bulbs. These lights contain mercury vapor that may be released to the environment when broken. Waste tubes, bulbs, and other lamps must be handled properly to prevent release and exposure. For information about safe handling practices for fluorescent tubes/bulbs, visit the City's website at www.fremont.gov/Environment.

- Drop-off: Allied Waste Service Center
- Drop-off: Alameda County Household Hazardous Waste facilities



All items listed must be recycled at a facility that accepts them. Improper disposal at any unauthorized locations (including your garbage, recycling, green organic carts, and/or dumpsters) is an environmental threat, and is therefore illegal and a serious crime.

Drop-off Information

- **Allied Waste Service Center**, 42600 Boyce Road
Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
657-3500 or www.alliedwasteac.com
- **Alameda County Household Hazardous Waste facilities**
800-606-6606 or www.household-hazwaste.org

t a l s e r v i c e s

Compost Does a Garden Good

11th Annual Compost Giveaway



Come to Fremont's Compost Giveaway event on **Saturday, April 1**, and receive two free bags of compost. The compost is made with material collected from residents who participate in the yardwaste and food scrap program in Fremont. This rain or shine event will take place from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon, or while supplies last.

The Compost Giveaway will be held at the New United Motors Manufacturing Inc. (NUMMI) facility. The entrance to the event will be on Grimmer Boulevard east (towards the hills) of the Fremont Boulevard intersection. Follow the signs and watch for the traffic control personnel who will direct you to the loading area where our crew will place the compost into your vehicle.

To receive your two bags of compost, please bring your Allied Waste Services (formerly BFI) bill from January, February, or March 2006, which will serve as proof that you are participating in the City of Fremont's curbside collection program. If your neighbor or a family member is unable to attend the event, you may bring their Allied bill as well and pick up their compost.

This event is brought to you by the City of Fremont, in partnership with Allied Waste Services, and NUMMI. For more information, please contact Allied Waste Services at 657-3500.



Celebrate Earth Day on April 22

Recycle Your Electronics, Visit the Fair

- The City of Fremont Environmental Services Division is hosting a **free** one-day drop-off event for various electronics.
- Local non-profit environmental groups are hosting an Earth Day Fair at the Teen Center in Central Park.

For more information, including location and hours of the drop-off event or Earth Day Fair, visit the City's website at www.fremont.gov/Environment or call the Environmental Services hotline at 494-4580.

Upcoming Creek Cleanups

In 2005, City staff completed 14 cleanups of local waterways with the help of 222 volunteers. They removed 5,229 pounds of debris (including 2,334 pounds of recyclable items)!

Mark your calendars and get involved in these upcoming cleanups (dates are tentative and locations to be determined):

- Saturday, April 1
- Wednesday, April 19 (Earth Day event)
- Friday, April 21 (Earth Day event)
- Saturday, May 6
- Saturday, May 20 (National River Day)

For more details and/or to register for an event, contact Creek Cleanup Coordinator Val Blakely at vblakely@ci.fremont.ca.us or 494-4577, or register online at

www.fremont.gov/Community/Volunteering/Creekcleanups.



Got Bugs? Get Answers!



Choose less-toxic products for a healthy home and garden. Look for the "Our Water Our World" symbol before you buy.

"Our Water Our World" products can be purchased at the following locations:

- **Dale Hardware** - 37100 Post Street
- **Orchard Supply Hardware** - 5130 Mowry Avenue
- **Navlet's Garden Center** - 46100 Warm Springs Boulevard
- **Regan's Nursery** - 4268 Decoto Road

For more information, visit the program's website at

www.ourwaterourworld.org.



Let's Celebrate Fremont!

*There's lots in store
for Fremont's
50th Anniversary*



Heritage Bus Tours of Historic Districts

April 15 / May 20 / June 17 / July 15 / August 26
September 16 / October 21 / November 18 / December 16
www.celebratefremont.org

Fremont Symphony's 50th Anniversary Pops Concert

May 12-13
www.fremontsymphony.org

4th of July Parade/Irvington

July 4
www.fremont4thofjulyparade.org

September 9-10

Fremont's 50th Anniversary

Celebrate Fremont!

@ The Park

**Fun
Food
Entertainment**

www.celebratefremont.org